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REMARKS

In the Office Action of November 18, 2004, the Examiner has provisionally rejected claims 1-20 under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-17 of copending Application No. 09/943,785, in view of Yansheng Jiang (U.S. 6,564,375). Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1-3, 7-10 and 16-20 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Daniel et al (US 2002/0022984). Claims 4-6 and 11-15 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daniel et al in view of Yansheng Jiang (U.S. 6,564,375).

The Office Action of March 29, 2004, has been carefully considered. Applicant notes the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 USC 112, and the rejection under 35 USC 102(e). By this amendment, entry of which is respectfully requested, claims 1-20 remain in the application. Claim 9 has been amended to correct a typographical error in the previous amendment. The amendment does not add new matter.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has stated that independent claims 1, 9 and 16 and dependent claims 2-8, 11-15 and 17-20 are unpatentable over pending claims 1-17 of copending patent application 09/943,785, under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting. The Examiner has stated that all of the claims of the subject application are fully disclosed in the referenced copending application.

The conflicting claims of the subject application are patentably distinct. Specifically, the subject application relates to a "wizard central" wherein knowledge and tools for solving business problems are accessible through a single distribution point. The wizard

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central is a tool to manage wizards and the contents of wizards, where the wizards can comprise any software tool that uses a knowledge base or business logic to assist a user in solving a business problem. The wizards and tools are categorized based on pre-defined criteria. Searches are thus limited by the categorization and the user is shown only wizards and tools that are applicable to the business problem.

The '785 application proposes an automated procedure relating to a computer-based method for *designing products*. This is quite different from accessing stored knowledge and tools for solving business problems. By way of example, the '785 application applies the computer-based method to creating airfoils in such a way that the airfoil can be reparented without losing the associativity with downstream parts. The automation of persistent airfoil creation and reparenting allows for performing of subsystem and system level optimization of the engine, and enables high fidelity information to be passed on to preliminary design tools performing optimization.

The disclosure and claims of the subject application do not relate to *product design*, as is disclosed and claimed in the '785 application. In the '785 application, a database is configured with dynamically changing product data to assist in the access to product information. Access to such information is particularly useful in the design stages of *product development*.

As disclosed and claimed in all of the claims of the subject application, the main thrust of the subject application is to allow users to *categorize wizards* or knowledge-based tools developed in a vast variety of authoring environments, with links to actual wizards, tools and results

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of wizards or tools that are relevant to specific problems. The subject application further discloses and claims such a tool that maintains the knowledge base associated with the software wizards or tools by providing a customized configuration control workflow for the revision process. This is patentably distinct from the copending application which relates to *product design assistance* by updating *product* information, such as compressor airfoil information for persistent airfoils of a gas turbine engine.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1-20 under 35 USC §103(a), for the reason that the cited art does not teach, anticipate, or render obvious the invention of Applicant.

In considering the Daniel application cited by the Examiner, it is respectfully submitted that this document does not anticipate the subject invention. The Daniel publication claims a computerized method for guiding service personnel with equipment requiring service, to determine a preferred service site. The Daniel publication does not in any way disclose categorization of wizards or knowledge-based tools. The cited reference does not teach or suggest knowledge and tools for solving business problems being accessible through a single distribution point. Daniel proposes how to direct a user to a service site, but does not *solve for* the service problem. It is respectfully submitted, therefore, that independent claims 1, 9 and 16 of the subject application are not anticipated by the cited patent.

Even if one were to combine the service personnel guidance method of Daniel with the Jiang patent, one would still not be led to the subject invention. Jiang proposes *altering* a wizard-based application, but does not teach, disclose or suggest categorization of wizards, as does the

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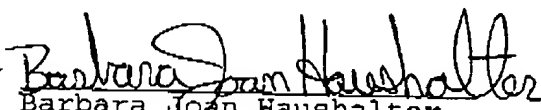
subject invention. This is also the case with the Desjardins patent which, while disclosing a method for creating a project, does not categorize information.

In light of the remarks herein, it is respectfully suggested that none of the claims of the subject application are anticipated or obviated by the cited documents, taken singularly or in combination, since the cited documents fail to disclose the elements of the claimed invention, arranged as in the claim, with the purpose defined in the subject application.

Claims 2-8, 10-15 and 17-20 depend from independent claims 1, 9 and 16 to contain all of the limitations found therein. By this dependency, it is submitted that these claims are not anticipated, taught, or rendered obvious by the cited document. Additionally, these claims add further limitations which distinguish them patentably from the cited documents.

In view of the foregoing remarks, the undersigned attorney respectfully submits that all of the claims of the application are clearly allowable. Therefore, Applicant's attorney respectfully requests that the Examiner's objections and rejections be withdrawn and that a formal Notice of Allowance be issued thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Barbara Joan Haushalter
Registration No. 33,598

228 Bent Pines Court
Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311
(937) 592-8603
Facsimile: (937) 592-8604
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